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SOURCE Elet es Tudomány.DESCRIPTION OF NEW BUDAPEST ATHLETIC STADIUM

Tibor Nagy

The entrance of the new Budapest Stadium faces the new subway terminal. The area around these two points, which is several kilometers in diameter, will be completely landscaped and will represent the first major undertaking of socialist city planning.

The stadium will accommodate 100,000 spectators. Its outer entrance is at the junction of Kerepesi ut, Vorosilov ut, and Hungaria korut. Parking facilities are provided at the entrance. A causeway running from the entrance to the stadium widens from 200 to 500 meters as it approaches the stadium. On each side of the causeway there will be a 10-meter-wide and 150-meter-long pool with 11 imposing groups of fountains and statues.

The stadium itself is an enormous elliptical structure with impressive walls; the upper terrace projects 4 meters beyond the foundation. This design gives tremendous force to the ellipse, the diameter of which is 360 meters from north to south and 260 meters from east to west. The stadium may be properly compared to a citadel, especially since this monumental concrete fortress is complete with towers and ramparts. These latter are the stairway structures; there are 38 stairways on the side of the ellipse and the same number of entrances to the tiers. On the east, or front side, there are two main gates for use at formal sports events.

Apart from the arena, the stadium has three main parts: the seating area for 100,000 spectators; the dressing rooms for 520 athletes; and the 11-story sport hotel which is 42 meters high.

The dressing rooms and the sport hotel together occupy 36,000 square meters.

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The spectator area has two parts: the inner dirt circle for standees and the tiers. The combined total length of circle and tiers is 50 kilometers. A space 50 centimeters wide and 80 centimeters deep is allowed for each spectator, which should provide ample room for sitting or standing. There are 40 seats in each section of each tier.

The stairways are done in Gothic style, featuring the familiar stone tracery. The entrances to the tiers are placed to permit the spectators to face the field while going to their seats. Instead of the customary way of climbing up the tiers, they will descend to their seats.

The stadium is completely open. Fresh-air circulation would otherwise be difficult to maintain because of the enormous size. In the event of rain, the passageway under the tiers can accommodate 80,000 persons. The arch of the bridge will provide protection for another 20,000 persons.

The passageway under the tiers connects all the stairways and ends at the main gates on either side of the central building. The grandstand will face the central building from the middle of the west-side tiers. There are emergency first-aid stations in the entrance halls. Two of the entrance halls have elevators within easy reach of any part of the tiers.

The arena is planned with similar care. The football field occupies the center. There are tracks around the football field, a 400-meter track covered with red slack, and a 3,000-meter obstacle course with water hurdles on the east side. Behind the football goals is space for athletic games such as high jumping; javelin, weight, and hammer throwing, etc. The jumping field is on the west side.

The dressing rooms for 520 athletes are attached to the sport hotel. There are four dressing rooms for ten persons, eight for 20 persons, and four for 80 persons each. There is a built-in locker for each contestant. The dressing rooms are connected with tile showers equipped with hot and cold running water. Each dressing room is connected with a massage room. In the dressing rooms, recreation rooms, and showers, fresh dry air is provided by a dehumidifying ventilating system. Air conditioning assures uniform temperature in the dressing rooms and the sports hotel.

Members of larger teams are provided with spacious recreation rooms. The office of the sport physician, where athletes are examined before and after contests, is in the hotel.

The heating and air-conditioning systems and the lighting equipment for night sports events are under the dressing rooms and the hotel.

The stadium will be ready to accommodate 80,000 persons on 4 April 1953. Two years from that date the completed construction will accommodate another 20,000 persons. The majority (about 80 percent) of the construction work consists of fitting prefabricated parts together. Fifty-six thousand cubic meters of concrete forms were manufactured, about 24,000 cubic meters of which were made on the building site. In the course of the construction, 210,000 cubic meters of earth will be moved, most of which will be used for building the inner spectators' circle.

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